Financial Assistance to States for Development of Minor Ports

*227. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some State Governments have sought financial assistance from the Centre to develop the minor ports located in their respective States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any such demand has been made by Orissa; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to assist the State Government of Orissa to develop and revive the minor ports particularly Dhamara Port?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJNATH SINGH): (a) and (b) As per the provisions of Indian Ports Act, 1908, the responsibility for development of Minor Ports lies entirely with the State Government concerned, which have administrative control on such ports. The funds for development of minor ports are placed by the Planning Commission in the Budget Grants of the State Government concerned.

(c) No, Sir. Ministry of Surface Transport has not received any proposal from Government of Orissa.

(d) Does not arise.

External Debts

*278. SHRI PRAFULL GORADIA: Will the Minister FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of external debt outstanding against India as on 31st March, 1999;

(b) the total amount paid back during 1998-99 and the amount due each year in the next three years; and

(c) the amount of balance of payments, deficits in 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 and the amount and type of capital flows through which these deficits were met?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) The total outstanding external debt of India as on March 31, 1999 is estimated at US dollar 97.68 billion.

(b) The estimates of total external debt service payments (principal and interest) during 1998-99 to 2001-02 are as under:

Total Debt Service Payments during 1998-99 to 2001-2002

(US $ billion)

	Actual@	Projected*		
	1998-1999	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002
Total Debt Service Payments	10.73	9.14	8.72	8.08

@ : Data on actual debt service payments for 1998-99 have been taken from RBI Annual Report, 1998-99.

* : Data on projected debt service payments for the periods 1999-2000 to 2001-2002 have been taken from Status Report on External Debt, June 1999 and is based on the external debt stock as on December 31,1999. The projections on debt service payments exclude NRI Deposits, Foreign Currency Convertible Bonds, Self Liquidating Loans and FII investment in Govt. securities.

(c) The estiamtes of balance of payments during 1996-97 to 1998-99 and the financing pattern of deficits are summarized as under:

Financing of BOP Deficits during 1996-97 to 1998-99

(US $ million)

S.No. Balance of Payments	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
1 Deficit on the Csurrent A/c.	4619	5500	4038
2 Net Outflows on Capital A.c. (A to C):	2833	1991	1369
A Repayments of IMF	975	618	393
B Debt Service Payments on Rupee Debt	727	767	802
C Other Capital Outflows, including errors & omissions	1131	606	174
3 Total Financing Requirements (1+2)	7452	7491	5407
4 Financed by Net Capital Inflows (A to D):	13270	11384	9236
A External Assistance	1109	907	820
B Commercial Borrowing	2848	3999	4362
C Foreign Investments	5963	5353	2312
D NRI Deposits	3350	1125	1742
5 Increase in Foreign Exchange Reserves (4+3)	5818	3893	3829

Source: Economic Survey 1999-2000.